Lima, Melissa

Period: 5

10/14/13

AP English Language

The Crucible: Anticipation/Reaction Guide

1. Confessing to a crime you didn’t commit in order to avoid punishment is wise.

I do not believe confessing to a crime that you did not commit in order to avoid punishment is wise. First off, the whole aspect of confessing to a crime you didn’t even do sounds absurd but I think that if I were to be put in that situation, I still would not confess of committing the crime. Not only are you lying to others around you but you are lying to yourself as well. If you admit that you did it, how would you NOT get out of punishment? Wouldn't you get punished MORE? That doesn't make sense to me. If you didn't do whatever you are accused of, and you say you did, you are technically lying in a court of law, which is illegal. Which is more punishment. So, basically, if you lie and say you did what you actually didn't do to avoid punishment, you might end up with more punishment than you would have originally gotten in the first place. The punishment that you are hoping to avoid by confessing this imaginary crime might be dodged in the moment but as time goes by, it will come once again to haunt you. Speaking the truth, whether it may be good or bad, is always much better than lying about it. Lying about committing a crime that you did not do is betraying yourself and all that you believe in. You are better off taking the punishment and knowing that you did not give in to others persuasions. This way you are taking whatever punishment comes at you, with a smile, because no matter how awful it is you know that what you did is right and you stayed true to yourself and others will respect you for this. Also, confessing to a crime you didn’t commit will let the others who are guilty of the crime get away with it. You are taking the blame for them; although this might sound like you are being the “bigger person” it is not fair to you because you didn’t do anything. While they are living their life, happy and enjoyable, you are miserable and gloomy. Others will put the real criminals before you, seeing you differently and not respecting you when in reality it should be the other way around. The punishment that you are now receiving is even worse than the one you attempted to avoid by confessing to the crime that you did not commit. Confessing to a crime that you didn't commit to avoid punishment is not wise due to the fact that you are essentially giving in to what the judge and "victim" wants. You are saying, "I don't care if I win and it doesn't matter." By confessing to that crime, you are losing all of the many valuable things in yourself such as your morals, values, and beliefs. Overall, it is not a smart idea to confess to a crime that you didn't commit.